

Starting the Game To begin a game once you have set up the options as you desire, press the fire button on the joystick.

Playing the Game Mama Llama is played in two main phases. First there is the strategy grid. Within the grid you can select which wave you wish to tackle next, and plant retroGenesis and antiGenesis devices. From there you go to the planetary surface you selected, there to battle the resident hostiles until you either kill them all or abort. In either case, the Warp Node opens and by passing through it you return to the Strategy grid.

Grid phase Whilst in the Grid phase, I recommend that you play with the controls a bit, shuffle the grid around a bit to see how it works. The **active square** is the flashing square at the bottom right. Within that square you place the symbol of the wave you want to go into.

To move the symbols around Moving the Joystick moves the X- and Y-axis selector arrows (white arrows, at the edge of the grid). Use these arrows to point to the row or column you want to move. Holding down the FIRE button and moving the joystick at the same time allows you to rotate the row or column you want to move. (It sounds worse than it is in practice. Try it out a few times). With the combination of selector arrows and rotations, you can dial any symbol into the active square. There are certain rules to remember, however, whilst on the Grid: **Time is limited**. The scale to the right of the screen counts down continuously. Don't let it disappear entirely, or the game ends. You have to complete your manipulations and leave the Grid before time out.

Watch the icons The colour and graphic on the little squares tell you something of what to expect if you enter that wave. The **graphic** tells you what type of planetary surface to expect when you warp back in, as follows:

- Little llama – indicates Inca City, Earth
- Little camel – indicates Ancient Egyptian City, Earth
- Rocket – indicates Lunar colony, low gravity
- Music note – indicates Rock City, Led zepp IV, HEAVY gravity
- Planet – indicates Inca homeworld, reduced gravity

The **colour** gives you a rough idea of how many aliens to expect within a given wave. A **dark blue** square would have maybe four or five aliens in it, and at the other extreme a **grey** square could contain over fifty creepies. The colour scale is displayed to the right of the grid, marked 'Safe' to 'Danger' to remind you.

Nogo symbols When you've completed a wave, or a wave becomes inaccessible through time (see below) a grey No Go symbol is displayed. Be very careful around these. You are not allowed to have a No Go symbol within the active square. The only time one should appear there is when you've just come out of a newly completed wave. Your first move should be to rotate it out of the active square – you can do this without penalty.

Penalties are incurred for either rotating a Nogo into the Active Square, or performing rotations elsewhere on the grid having left a Nogo within the Active Square. The number of penalties you are allowed is set by the Nogos option at the beginning of the game. The number of penalties until Game Over is displayed by the number of non-Nogo icons on the colour display strip to the right of the grid.

Time and the Genesis devices All the while you are within a wave, at set periods the number of aliens waiting in yet-to-be selected waves increases. (The frequency of this increase is controlled by the Gen Rate parameter). You'll notice the overall grid colour changing as you return to the Grid between waves.

If the number of aliens in a wave gets beyond a certain level, that wave becomes inaccessible and a Nogo sign is placed upon it. You cannot enter such a wave. (If you aren't first destroyed, the game ends when all the waves are inaccessible either through your having completed a wave, or through a wave being taken over by aliens).

To prevent the takeover of a wave by aliens, you can either enter the cave and do battle (the usual route), or you may plant a retroGenesis or antiGenesis device in the active square. The device will act for you against the aliens whilst you're away battling on a different wave.

AntiGenesis devices (plant and retrieve in the active square using F5) prevent any more aliens being generated in any wave to which applied. You get 8 ants. When you want to enter a wave protected by an antiGenesis, retrieve it and then enter.

RetroGenesis devices (plant and retrieve in the active square using F3) actively reduce the amount of aliens within their square of operation. You get 4 of these most useful devices. If they reduce a wave to a single alien, they automatically disengage and return to store. Apart from that they can be retrieved into store in the same manner as the antiGenesis devices. The number of ants and retro, plus the special icon reserved for each, is shown to the right of the colour bar display.

Entering an attack wave Once you have completed all your business on the strategy grid and wish to go to battle, pressing F1 transports you into the wave chosen in the Active Square.

Doing Battle After you have pressed F1 to go into battle, the strategy grid will fade away and the planetary surface will appear. Your three llamas will also appear in the centre of the screen. The killDroid hovers above their heads.

Control of the Llamas Moving the joystick left and right causes Mama to accelerate in the desired direction. If the FIRE button is not being pressed, then pushing the joystick up causes Mama to jump, and pushing the joystick down causes her to sit down (if there is any downtime left) to regenerate strength. The baby llamas imitate whatever Mama does. If she jumps, so do they.

The KillDroid This device is used to clobber the assailants with. When the FIRE button is not pressed, it hovers in a de-activated state over the llamas. Hold down the FIRE button to gain control of the droid. The droid starts to flash (indicating that it's active) and is now under joystick control. Droid response is full-inertial. To kill with the droid, simply run it over the desired target. Note that with FIRE pressed the llamas cannot jump or sit down, but they are still left/right control. The droid cannot be activated while you're sitting down. It is possible to adjust the inertia of the droid to suit the needs of a particular wave or your own tastes. On the upper status line at the base of the screen are two displays, either side of the scanners, reading X1.4 and Y1.3. These figures represent the X-inertia and Y-inertia of the droid. Press A and Z to adjust up and down the Y-inertia, and X and C to adjust the X-inertia. The best time to do this is just before you enter the warpgate and not under attack, or put it in PAUSE mode and adjust the droid in safety.

Status Displays The top status line shows droid inertia as detailed above. On this line are also the four scanners. These track active objects on the planet, and tell you which direction to go to get to them. The number refers to the object being tracked, 1-4, and the arrows bracketing the number give directional and distance information. A **blue** arrow means the object is far away, and a **white** arrow means the object is very close, probably visible. If both arrows around a scanner are grey, then that scanner is not tracking anything at all. Large arrows also light up when the warpgate is open, indicating the way to get to the Gate.

The **wave name** is displayed below this. On the next line down, against a purple background, the **llama strength** meters are displayed. Meter no. 1 indicates the strength of Mama, 2 and 3 show that of the babies. If allowed to reach zero, you lose that llama. Keep an eye on these indicators and sit down to regenerate strength as necessary.

Below this the **Planet type** is displayed, and on the very bottom line are displayed score, CF and zap number. The 'zap number' indicates how many aliens you have to zap to clear the sector (usually). There are certain waves where the zap number is reduced in different ways, but you'll find out about them... The objective in each wave is the same, however reduce the zap number to zero, and thereby open the warpgate. The number of aborts available is also shown on this bottom line.

Sitting Down As your llamas get clobbered by assailants, their strength decreases. This also occurs just from running and jumping about. You have a limited amount of 'downtime' during which you can sit down and your strength will build up. The amount of downtime is set by the **Regen** parameter. The colour of the llamas changes while seated, to give some idea of the amount of downtime available, and they automatically stand up again when it runs out. Downtime is reset to maximum whenever you leave the Strategy Grid.

Aborting If a wave is too heavy for you and it looks like you're going to lose a llama, you can force the warpgate to open by pressing the F7 button (provided you haven't already used up all your aborts!).

Scoring The game is scored in two ways by a conventional score, i.e. you get points for whatever you hit, with different creepies giving different values. There is another score system, the CF or Completion Factor. Whenever you complete a wave, 1 x the number of llamas remaining, is added to the CF. Thus the theoretical maximum CF is 300 (there are 100 waves and if you did them all with all 3 llamas intact you'd get a CF of 300).

About the Waves Many of the waves are quite straightforward, i.e. zap the enemy and the zap-quotient decreases. On many waves, however, you have to figure out what to kill, when to kill it; how to activate certain devices; what not to kill (mistakes can upset Rory)... Sometimes you may have to pass under something, touch something with your llama, jump catch things; avoid things, simply hang around, follow things, make objects hit other objects and so on. Many of the waves are puzzles, and the zap number doesn't always represent an actual physical number of aliens; there are other ways to reduce it. Some of the aliens are only vulnerable during certain phases of attack.

Leaving a Wave Once ZAP is reduced to zero, or you've pressed abort, the Warp Gate opens. Use the large arrow to locate the Gate and when it is in an appropriate position, enter the Gate. You will be returned to the Strategy Grid.

Convenience Controls These are available through the Battle phase. Pressing P activates Pause Mode. Unlike a normal Pause mode, this doesn't stop the action, it just renders the aliens harmless and stops degradation of strength and alien production. The border goes **red** while this mode is on. It is useful in this mode to experiment with the droid (which you can still control) and adjust its inertia. Press P again to leave pause mode. If the music annoys you it can be muted by pressing the M key.

Hints on Gameplay There are two kinds of especially savage Rory: one can be shot with the droid, the other cannot. Ghosts can sometimes be shot. Gremlins don't like water. Rory won't tolerate my CD stopping. Use inertia for your own benefit. Remember to sit down when necessary. Eyeball the scanners. Clobber Uncle Clive and his devices. Turn down the music and listen to LedZepIV (the album not the planet). A gentle touch with the droid works better than a heavy hand. Look after Mama. Be quick in all waves. Preserve your spatial awareness.

2 ▶ RASKEL

© Alligata

The Game Defend your power rail from the invading aliens, once it is destroyed so is your planet. You can manoeuvre your craft both in space and along the power rail firing at will, but be careful, blasting exhausts your energy level. Keep on the move and watch out for aliens because if you remain static or crash with an alien this also drains energy and you'll eventually vaporise. When all else fails resort to the Track Bomb.

Features 20 Alien invasion waves.

Points High score table Blast everything in sight. Wave bonus for alien attack repelled.

To Move Joystick only

- F1 Track restorer
- F7 Track Bomb
- P Pause
- RESTORE Reset high score table
- RUN/STOP Restart

3 ▶ AQUA RACER

© Bubblebus

The Game The object of the game is to complete as many of the 20 courses as possible within the time limits. First there is a qualifying round, and then the main round. You will be competing against other boats who will get in your way.

Control Using a joystick in Port 2, move the boat left and right. Push the joystick forward to accelerate and back to decelerate. Press the fire button the change gear.

Title Screen Mode In the title screen mode you select the game option by moving the arrow up and down using the joystick and pressing the fire button.

Practice Mode In practice mode you select the course no. (1-20) using the joystick. There are no other boats on the practice course and when it is completed you go back to the title screen.

Demo Mode In demo mode the computer automatically selects one of the first four courses and shows it. To leave demo mode just move the joystick.

General When you start the game you select the no. of players (1-4) and input names. You can skip this by pressing the fire button. To Abort the game, hit the RESTORE key.

4 ▶ FRENZY

© Micro Power

The Game Deadly sub-atomic particles are running free in a scientific research centre. It is your job to trap the darting Leptons using a robot craft before your time runs out.

As you move the craft across the screen a green ion-trail is dragged along behind. When you reach the edge again the smaller area, confined in this green line, is filled in. A Lepton is captured if it is trapped in this area or if 95% of the screen has been filled. A bar running along the bottom of the screen indicates the percentage of the total area remaining to be filled. Enclosed areas are coloured red, but at any time you can switch to the faster speed and areas so filled are coloured pink.

Higher levels introduce Chasers which move along the borders. A life is lost if you collide with one of these or if a Lepton hits your trail. The number of Leptons and Chasers increases up to a maximum of 5 of each. An extra craft is obtained on completion of the third, sixth and ninth screens. A good strategy is to build small narrow pink blocks up the centre of an unfilled area in fast mode and then to finish off by using the slower mode to reach the top of the screen and capture the Lepton (producing a red block).

Scoring The base score for a fast-filled screen in 1237 – double for slow-filled areas. By way of example, the maximum score that can be obtained on screen 7 (if 95% area is filled and all Leptons captured, on slow-fill) is calculated as follows: Score = 1237 x 0.95 x 2 (all slow fill) x 5 (screen multiplier) x (1 + 3) (3 Leptons captured) = 47006. This is excluding the time bonus.

Game Controls Plug a joystick into control port 2 or use the following keys: SPACE BAR or FIRE sets the robot craft in motion. Pressing this again causes the craft to move faster. Before each game, 'S' turns the sound on and 'Q' turns it off.

5 ▶ CIRCUS

© Adventuresoft

The Game Your car has run out of petrol on a lonely road miles from habitation. As you trudge reluctantly down the road in search of help you are suddenly confronted by an amazing sight... In a nearby field is a huge circus tent. But this is no ordinary circus tent as you will soon discover!

To save a Game To save a game situation at any point during play, simply place a blank tape in the recorder, type SAVE and press the < ENTER > engage RECORD and PLAY on the recorder, and press the < ENTER < key again.

Loading a Saved Game You can load a saved game at the start of an adventure. At any time by typing QUIT and re-starting the game.

The first question asked by a Mysterious Adventure is: 'RESUME PLAY ON A SAVED GAME?' If you type Y and press < ENTER > with a rewound 'saved game tape' in your recorder, the adventure will continue from the point at which you saved when the data has loaded.

Only answer Y to the question 'RESUME PLAY ON A SAVED GAME?' If you have a 'saved game tape'.

COMMODORE 64/128

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- 2 Mutant Monty ▶ Artic
- 3 Henrys House ▶ English Software
- 4 Gribblys Day Out ▶ Hewson
- 5 Snooker ▶ Visions
- 6 Mama Llama ▶ Llamasoft
- 7 Raskel ▶ Alligata
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